(b) The selection procedure for the post has been completed and the appointment of a Director on regular basis is under an advanced stage of consideration of Government.

(c) The search-cum-selection committee appointed for suggesting a panel of names for the post has taken into consideration the functional and professional requirements of the job before making recommendations to the Government.

Census of Tigers

397. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the census figures for tigers in the wild, in the States of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Nagaland forest, division-wise, since 1970 as per the various censuses conducted therein alongwith details of breakup of males, females, cubs, etc., for each of the censuses, for each of the forest divisions of each State; and

(b) the steps being taken for tiger conservation in the State of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Government monitors only State level estimation of wild tiger population in the country.The census figures State-wise since 1972 are given in the Statement enclosed *(See* below).

(b) There are no wild tigers in the State of Gujarat and hence the question of taking steps for their conservation does not arise.

Statement

Population of Tigers in the country as reported by the States

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993	1997	2001-02"
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Tamil Nadu	33	65	97	95	97	62	60
2.	Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276	257	238
3.	West Bengal	73	296	352	353	335	361	349

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Karnataka	102	156	202	257	305	350	401
5.	Bihar	85	110	138	157	137	103	76
6.	Assam	147	300	376	376	325	458	354
7.	Rajasthan	74	79	96	99	64	58	58
8.	Madhya Pradesh	457	529	786	985	912	927	710
9.	Uttar Pradesh	262	487	698	735	465	475	284
10.	Andhra Pradesh	35	148	164	235	197	171	192
11.	Mizoram	--	65	33	18	28	12	28
12.	Gujarat	8	7	9	9	5	1	NIL
13.	Goa, Daman & Diu	-	-	-	2	3	6	5
14.	Orissa	142	173	202	243	226	194	173
15.	Kerala	60	134	89	45	57	73	71
16.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	227
17.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
18.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-	251
	TOTAL :	1638	2732	3543	4026	3432	3508	3511
19.	Meghalaya	32	35	125	34	53	-	47
20.	Manipur	1	10	6	31	-	-	NR
21.	Tripura	7	6	5	-	-	-	
22.	Nagaland	80	102	104	104	83	-	
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	69	139	219	135	180	-	61*'
24.	Sikkim	-	-	2	4	2	-	NR
26.	Haryana	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL :	189	292	462	308	318		131

N.R.- Not reported by States.

*Tiger census was not carried out in North East States in 1997.

** Under compilation/vetting

***Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.